



The Honorable Chris Coons
United States Senate
127A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

February 10, 2014

Dear Senator Coons:

The Pew Charitable Trusts applauds your efforts to promote U.S. leadership in energy technologies by introducing the America INNOVATES Act. This legislation will cultivate partnerships between Department of Energy laboratories, universities, and industry, to move promising new energy technologies to the marketplace. Enhancing the ability of national laboratories to advance scientific discovery to commercialization will strengthen the U.S. competitiveness position in the global clean energy race, which is expected to reach \$7 trillion by 2035.

The U.S. Department of Energy's national laboratories play a critical role in creating pathways for new discoveries to become low cost, commercially-available products and services. The U.S. has a history of leveraging partnerships between industry, universities, and federal laboratories to drive down costs in key energy technologies such as solar photovoltaics, wind turbines, and advanced batteries. In 2012, the United States fell behind China for the leadership position in the clean energy market, attracting \$35.6 billion in private investment compared to China's \$65.1 billion. Pew research concludes that strong national policy that provides a culture of innovation will be a key factor to future U.S. successes.

Your efforts to stimulate U.S. innovation in energy, along with continued support for critical Department of Energy programs including ARPA-E, the Office of Science, and the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy are imperative to U.S. competitiveness in energy innovation, and Pew hopes to work with you to advance this legislation. Thank you, and feel free to contact me with questions at pcuttino@pewtrusts.org or 202-887-8867.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phyllis Cuttino'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'P' and 'C'.

Phyllis Cuttino
Director, Clean Energy Program
The Pew Charitable Trusts